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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Gil W. Helms

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EXAMINER

KASSA, YOSEF

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/932,148

Applicant(s)

HELMS ET AL.

Examiner

YOSEF KASSA

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawing Objection

1. New corrected drawings are required in this application because Examiner cannot able to read same of the block description/identification of Figure 1, items 100, 70 and 60, for example. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otani (U.S. Patent 6,144,403), and further in view of Sato et al (U.S. Patent 5,861,892).

With regarding to claim 1, Otani discloses generating an image capture signal (see Fig. 2, items 6, 7 and 103); assigning, at the central processor, i.e., controllers 13 and 108 in Fig. 2, in response to an image capture signal, a memory address for the image data to be assembled, i.e., image synthesizing, (see col. 6, lines 28-37);

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receiving, at an image capture device, optical image data from an imager (see Fig. 2, items 6 and 7); assembling the image data at the image data assembler (image synthesizing, Fig. 2, item 105) under control of the central processor (see col. 6, lines 8-32); storing the assembled image data in memory in accordance with the assigned memory address (see col. 8, lines 46-67); executing the application program at the central processor, whereby the optical image is captured, decoded and processed by the central processor (see col. 6, lines 24-32).

While Otani discloses an image decoding process, he does not explicitly call for decoding the assembled image data. However, at the same field of endeavor Sato et al discloses this feature (see col. 4, lines 28-34). At the time of invention was made, it would have been obvious to an orderly skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Sato et al decode synthesize image process into Otani's system. The motivation do so is to provide an image editing processor for editing input image data in raster form which obtained from the memory and decoding the encoded data.

With regarding to claim 2, Otani discloses the step of assigning a memory address for the image data to be assembled further comprises invoking the image capture device under control of the central processor to begin the image data assembly process (see col. 8, lines 46-59).

With regarding to claim 3, Otani discloses assembling the image data further comprises invoking a transfer controller under control of the central processor (see col. 6, lines 1-12).

With regarding to claim 4, Otani discloses assembling the image data further

comprises invoking an image builder module to begin an image data assembly process (see col. 6, lines 28-32).

With regarding to claim 5, Otani discloses the step of assembling the image data is initiated upon receipt of a signal from the transfer controller (see col. 6, lines 1-12).

With regarding to claim 6, Otani discloses the transfer controller transfers the memory address for the image data to memory for receipt of the assembled image data (see col. 8, lines 53-67).

With regarding to claim 7, Otani discloses assembling the image data comprises invoking a programmable logic device remote from the central processor (see col. 6, lines 1-13).

With regarding to claim 8, Otani discloses receiving optical image data comprises receiving optical image data in segments (see col. 5, lines 40-46).

With regarding to claim 9, Otani discloses assembling the image data comprises invoking an image builder module to assemble image data into larger image data components (see col. 6, lines 24-32).

With regarding to claim 10, Otani discloses assembling the image data further comprises invoking the transfer controller to coordinate transfer of the assembled image data to memory (see col. 8, lines 46-68).

With regarding to claim 11, Otani discloses assigning, at the central processor, a memory address to the assembled image data further comprises gaining control of an image request line upon completion of an image data block to initiate an image data transfer to memory (see col. 8, lines 46-68).

With regarding to claim 12, Otani discloses generating an end of frame signal after the image data components are stored (see col. 9, lines 17-34).

With regarding to claim 13, Otani discloses accessing the assembled image data in memory for decoding after the image data is assembled (see Fig. 2, items 104 and 105).

With regarding to claim 14, Otani discloses executing the application program after the image data has been decoded (see Fig. 1, items 11 and 14).

With regarding to claim 15, Otani discloses assigning a memory address to the assembled image data further comprises communicating the memory address via the transfer controller (see Fig. 2, items 107 and 108).

With regarding to claim 16, Otani discloses storing the assembled image data in system memory further comprises gaining control of the data bus in communication with the image data assembler and the memory module and transferring assembled image data to system memory (see Fig. 2, items 105, 107 and 108).

With regarding to claim 17, Otani discloses assembling the image data further comprises invoking an image builder in response to assigning, at the central processor, a memory address for the image data (see col. 8, lines 46-67).

With regarding to claim 18, Otani discloses invoking a transfer controller comprises invoking a programmable logic device (see col. 5, lines 54-58).

Claim 19 is similarly analyzed as claim 18.

With regarding to claim 20, Otani discloses the step of assembling the image data comprises assembling the image data under control of the central processor and an

image builder module (see col. 6, lines 24-34).

Claim 21 is similarly analyzed as claim 20.

With regarding to claim 22, Otani discloses the step of assigning a memory address comprises assigning a beginning memory address (see col. 8, lines 46-66).

Claim 23 is similarly analyzed as claim 1.

Claims 24-40 are similarly analyzed as claims 2-22.

Other Prior Art Cited

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. (6,298,176) to Longacre, Jr. et al disclose symbol controlled image data reading system.

US Patent No. (5,992,744) to Smith et al disclose optical reader having multiple scanning assemblies with...

US Patent No. (6,123,261) to Roustaei discloses optical scanner and image reader for reading image and decoding...

US Patent No. (6,023,345) to Bloomfield disclose facsimile to e-mail communication system with local interface.

US Patent No. (5,917,947) to Ishida et al discloses image processing method and apparatus ...

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOSEF KASSA whose telephone number is (703) 306-5918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BHAVESH MEHTA can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for regular communication and (703) 872-9306 for after Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631. The group receptionist number for TC 2600 is (703) 305-4700.

PATENT EXAMINER

Yosef Kassa

06/10/04.



BHAVESH M. MEHTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600